



REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

J. S. RANSON

M.R.C.S. ; L.R.C.P. ; D.P.H.

FOR THE

Halstead Rural District

For the Year 1940

HALSTEAD :
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HALSTEAD RURAL DISTRICT.

Interim Annual Report for the Year 1940.

SECTION A.

Area in Acres	77,089
Population (Registrar General's estimate)	16,580
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1940) according to the Rate Books	5,484
Rateable value	£490,55 0 0
Sum represented by a penny rate	£214 5 5

Extracts from Vital Statistics:—

	Total	Male	Female
Live Births: Legitimate	190	102	88
Illegitimate	7	4	3
Still Births	10	6	4

Birth rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	11.8
Still birth rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	nil
Deaths—Registrar General's estimate	242
Death rate per 1,000 resident population	14.5
Corrected death rate (comparability figure 0.79)	11.4

Death rate of infants under one year of age:—

Total deaths	7
Deaths of all infants per 1,000 live births	40.6
Deaths of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	36.9
Deaths of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegiti- mate live births	nil

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	57
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	nil

Deaths at Various Age Groups during 1940.

(Registered and transferred).

Age Group.	No. of Deaths.
Under 1 year	7
1 and under 2 years	1
2 and under 5 years	0
5 and under 15 years	0
15 and under 25 years	3
25 and under 35 years	8
35 and under 45 years	2
45 and under 55 years	19
55 and under 65 years	28
65 and under 75 years	58
75 years and upwards	106
Total ...	232

SECTION B.

Health Services of the Area.

STAFF.

J. S. RANSON, M.R.C.S.; L.R.C.P.; D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

G. F. DEARMAN, A.R.S.I.; M.S.I.A.
Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

The Laboratory Facilities and Ambulance Service remain the same as in former years.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS :—

General Inspections	507
Dairies	158
Bakehouses	19
Slaughter houses	38
Water supplies	237
Tents and Vans	8
Verminous houses	2
Disinfections	35
Pumps and wells—cleansed and repaired ...	41
Total ...	1045

SECTION D.

Housing.

Council Houses—Inspections for repairs	...	147
Housing sites and new works inspected	...	107
Ditto (private enterprise) ... ..	...	45
House re-conditioning inspections	...	31
Routine house inspections	...	54

WAR DAMAGE.

Properties inspected and reported upon	...	220
First Aid repairs ... ..	...	15
Houses completely repaired	...	12

HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR.

Four houses only were erected during the year, all of them by private enterprise.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

All slaughter-houses in the area have been closed.

The inspections of cowsheds and dairies have been continued as much as possible.

SECTION F.

Prevalence and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

With the exception of an outbreak of measles during the last quarter of the year, very few cases of infectious disease have been notified. This outbreak of measles was extensive, but mild in character.

No cases were admitted to Hospital and no special action was found to be necessary.

Disease.	Total Cases notified.	Cases admitted to hospital	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	11	5	0
Erysipelas	2	0	0
Measles	139	0	0
Whooping Cough	2	0	0
Puerperal pyrexia	1	0	0
Cerebro-spinal meningitis	1	1	0
	156	6	0

Tuberculosis.

Cases notified :—

Adults—Pulmonary	...	...	...	Male	5
				Female	4
Adults—Non-pulmonary	...	...	...	Male	nil
				Female	nil
Children—Pulmonary	...	...	...		nil
„ Non-pulmonary	...	...	...	Male	1
				Female	1

Deaths.

Adults—Pulmonary	...	...	...	Male	2
				Female	4
Adults—Non-pulmonary		...	...	Male	1
				Female	nil
Children	...	...	...		nil

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The work commenced in the area in 1939 has been carried on during the year. The majority of those children whose parents had consented to the original appeal were immunised by the end of March and were later Schick tested with satisfactory results. Later in the year there were a number of further consents, and these children have also been immunised. The work is still being carried on.

It is estimated that in the Halstead Rural and Urban Districts approximately 50% of the children between the ages of 1 year and 14 years are now immune.

